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E.O.12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PINR, UNGA
SUBJECT: UN SYG PRESSURED BY EUROPEANS FOR MORE HIGH-
LEVEL UN JOBS FOR THEM, SAYS U.S. LEADERSHIP AT UN IS KEY

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. I MET WITH UN SECRETARY-GENERAL BOUTROS-GHALI
ONE-ON-ONE FOR ALMOST AN HOUR ON MAY 23. I HAD
SCHEDULED AN APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS U.S. HIGH-LEVEL
APPOINTMENTS AT THE UN (SEPTEL), BUT HE PULLED ME AWAY
TO ADDRESS ISSUES WHICH WERE CLEARLY ON HIS MIND AS HE
RETURNED FROM AN EXTENDED TRIP TO EUROPE.

PRESSURE FROM THE EUROPEANS: JOBS

3. BBG WAS IN A CONFRONTATIONAL MODE WHEN I MET HIM.
HE SAID HE HAD RUN INTO A WALL OF HOSTILITY AGAINST THE
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U.S. FROM THE EUROPEANS DURING HIS JUST-COMPLETED TRIP
TO EUROPE AND AFRICA. BBG EMPHASIZED THAT THIS
RESENTMENT CAME FROM A BROAD SPECTRUM OF INTERLOCUTORS,
NOT JUST EUROPEAN LEADERSHIP. HE REPEATEDLY HEARD THE
LITANY THAT THE COMBINATION OF EUROPEAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE UN MATCHED OUR OWN, BUT THE EUROPEANS DEMANDED (AND
RECEIVED) LESS. HOWEVER, THEY WERE SEEKING MORE FROM
THE UN -- INCLUDING MORE HIGH-LEVEL POSTS IN THE
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES (SEPTEL). THE U.S. DRIVE FOR
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL, THEUNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS
DATE/CASE ID: 15 DEC 2005 200103014

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PRESS BY CONGRESS TO REDUCE THE USG ASSESSMENT ON PEACEKEEPING, AND THE FACT THAT THE U.S. DID NOT PAY ITS UN DUES ON TIME OR IN FULL WERE POINTS THAT THE EUROPEANS REPEATEDLY MADE TO HIM. THESE POINTS HURT US, ESPECIALLY AS THE OPTIC IN EUROPE WAS THAT THE U.S. WAS MOVING AWAY FROM THE UN. IN THE POST-COLD WAR ERA, THE EUROPEANS THOUGHT THAT THEIR FINANCIAL MIGHT IN THE UN SHOULD RESULT IN A GREATER VOICE.

U.S. LEADERSHIP ESSENTIAL IN ALL AREAS

4. FURTHER, THE SYG WAS EXTREMELY CONCERNED AT HOW THE USG'S NEW CRITERIA ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS HAD AFFECTED UN ACTION ON RWANDA, WHICH HE TERMED A "MAJOR DISASTER." HIS ANALYSIS WAS THAT THE U.S. HAD LED NEGATIVELY, WHICH IN TURN CAUSED SUPPORT AND POTENTIAL DONORS (SUCH AS [REDACTED] FOR AN EXPANDED UNAMIR TO GET COLD FEET. HE SAID HE COULDN'T SLEEP AT NIGHT AS THE GENOCIDE CONTINUED IN RWANDA BECAUSE OF THIS "MAJOR FAILURE OF THE UN, GREATER THAN ALL OF THE OTHERS." WHILE HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] HE RETURNED TO HIS POINT THAT THE WORLD LOOKED TO THE U.S FOR LEADERSHIP. WHILE IN SOUTH AFRICA, AFRICAN LEADERS HAD TOLD HIM THAT BY PUTTING ON THE BRAKES ON RWANDA, THE U.S. HAD DETERRED ANY EFFECTIVE UN ACTION TO STOP THE SLAUGHTER. IN SOMALIA, THE U.S. DECISION TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE HAD SERVED AS A MAGNET FOR OTHERS. IN RWANDA, WE WERE REPELLING AID.

5. I REMINDED BBG THAT WE HAD SUPPORTED THE DEPLOYMENT OF A MECHANIZED GHANIAN BATTALION FOR RWANDA, WE HAD UNDER FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION A REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT, AND WE DID SUPPORT ACTION TO REDUCE THE BLOODSHED. HIS PESSIMISM DID NOT LIFT. BBG WAS STUNG BY THE CRITICISM, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, THE UN HAD COME UNDER DURING HIS TRAVEL AND WAS LOOKING FOR AN OUTLET TO VENT HIS FRUSTRATION THAT THE UN WAS BEING PRESENTED AS INEFFECTUAL AND INEFFICIENT. HIS MEETING WITH ME, AMONG THE FIRST ON HIS RETURN TO NEW YORK, PROVIDED HIM AN OUTLET.

6. IN A FOLLOW-ON MEETING ON MAY 24 IN WHICH HE WAS

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INTRODUCED TO OUR UNICEF CANDIDATE DR. FOEGE BY MY
DEPUTY, AMBASSADOR GNEHM, HE PUT ON A MORE DEBONAIR
AIR. I BELIEVE THAT OUR ARRANGING A PRESIDENTIAL
MEETING FOR BBG IN WASHINGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE WILL GO
FAR TO GIVE HIM THE AMMUNITITION HE NEEDS TO ARGUE WITH
OUR FRIENDS AND FOES ALIKE THAT THE US-UN RELATIONSHIP
IS IN GOOD SHAPE AND THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTS AN
EFFECTIVE, STREAMLINED UN.

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